

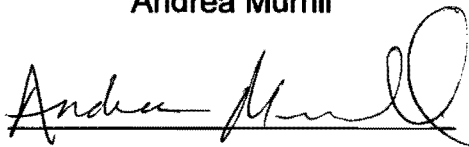
# **Everything Goes With Brown**

**Honors Thesis (HONRS 499)**

**by**

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A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Andrea Murrill", written over a horizontal line.

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## **Abstract / Artist Statement**

everything goes with brown

*n. idea:* with self-assuredness, any color can be worn with any color, any pattern with any pattern, any texture with any texture, and any face can portray any amount or unamount of expression- and beauty will naturally reveal itself through the composition of fashions and features.

## Honors Thesis Analysis

It seems that every year a new interest pops up from the depths of my quirky little brain. Freshman year I was to become an architect, shortly after a fashion designer, then onto my current and final major of graphic design, which was recently surpassed in interest by photography.

After much debate, and slight concern over these changing interests, I discovered the reason for my final love, photography. Through photography I can capture the nicked bricks of an old industrial building, the color of the rust on a rundown silo, the layers of texture (of materials) within a space, the formal line, shape, and spaces within the realm of architecture.

Through photography I can capture the flowing of a favorite dress in the wind, the play on colors and patterns within various apparel combinations, the cling of a particular fabric to the body, the concealing and revealing that a certain outfit can provide for the human figure. Photography captures fashion.

Though how do you capture graphic design through photography? It's not in the same way you photograph architecture, or fashion. Photography is graphic design- visual communication. It is a beautiful expression of every single element of design. Composition, texture relationships, color relationships, relationships of objects and people in a space, line, shape, form, all of that. This clearly explains my current top interest, and likely my permanent top interest: photography.

As for the project itself, I began with the hope of creating a strong portfolio in an attempt to apply for jobs in the fashion magazine industry. Through graphic design I became very interested in page layout, and through a marketing minor I became very interested in creating advertisements. In my photography classes I began to see a shift towards fashion and faces. I became obsessed with portraiture and fashion photography, so much that I began perusing magazine racks and studying particular lighting techniques. I decided, in hopes to build a portfolio and in an attempt to gain more knowledge and experience, that I would do a photography exhibit on fashion and portraiture.

An inspiration for this project was my own sense of fashion, and sense of self. It is my theory that any woman can wear any combination of clothing and get away with it, so long as she is completely self-assured. Nothing is sexier than a woman with her own style who knows how to carry herself. "Everything Goes With Brown" is not so much a literal translation, it is a state of mind. I do believe everything goes with brown, it is particularly my favorite color and I do throw it into nearly every combination, but only because my confidence allows it. This title says "So what, I love it, it goes, and I feel beautiful in it."

The photographs are meant to capture this sense of confidence through fashion shots and portraiture. Allowing your face to be blown up twice its size and hung on a wall, now that is beautiful confidence. Carrying yourself with poise, with grace- nothing is more empowering. It is my theory that through the combination of fashions and features, beauty naturally reveals itself- always.

## **Acknowledgements**

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Also, a big thanks to my photography professor, friend, and advisor, Andrea Murrill, and to Serena Nancarrow at the Photo Crypt in the Art Department for all of their specialized help on this project.

Thanks as well to all my art professors for continual inspiration. I am very proud to have worked under all of you.

And of course, thank you so very much to my wonderful models. The show would not have existed without them.

## **Inspirational Sources**

Various fashion magazines, largely Vogue, as well as fashion company magazines such as Anthropologie, American Eagle, and too many others to even remember.

Celebrity photographers for the portraiture series.

Books in the library on photography, not even necessarily on fashion or portraiture, but just general sources of artistic inspiration- a must for a career in the arts!











